

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 24 remain active in this application. The specification has been reviewed and editorial revisions made where seen to be appropriate. Claims 8 and 17 have also been editorially revised. Support for the amendments of paragraph 0009 is found in claims 1 and 15. No new matter has been introduced into the application.

Withdrawal of the previous requirement for restriction is noted with appreciation.

Election has now been required between species identified by the Examiner and respectively designated by the Examiner as embodiments 1 - 3. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1 and 15 are generic and that, if found allowable, rejoinder will be permitted. Embodiment 1 has been provisionally elected with traverse above and claims 1 - 7, 15 - 17 and 24 have been indicated as being deemed readable thereon.

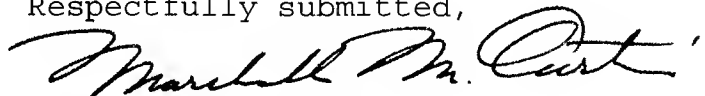
The requirement for election of species is respectfully traversed since the identified species while patentably distinct from each other are not independent or mutually exclusive species since they are disclosed as being advantageously usable together in paragraph 0032 and to preserve Applicants right to petition and/or rejoinder of the identified species should a generic claim be found allowable. While the Examiner's observations in regard to features of the respective identified embodiments, they are not probative of the issue of independence of the identified species. Further, the requirement is silent as to the possible existence of any serious burden of examination in the absence of the requirement and it is respectfully submitted that no such serious burden can exist in view

of the disclosed usability of the identified embodiments in combination with each other as well as the presence of generic claims and the subject matter of the recitations thereof.

Since a provisional election has been made and claims deemed readable on the provisionally elected species have been identified, it is respectfully submitted that the foregoing is a full and complete response to the official action of September 26, 2007. An early action on the merits of this application is respectfully submitted to now be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

If an extension of time is required for this response to be considered as being timely filed, a conditional petition is hereby made for such extension of time. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 09-0458 of International Business Machines Corporation (East Fishkill).

Respectfully submitted,



Marshall M. Curtis
Reg. No. 33,138

Whitham, Curtis, Christofferson & Cook, P. C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, Virginia 20190

(703) 787-9400
Customer Number: 30743